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A case of subungual melanoma *in situ* in an 18-year-old girl presented with total melanonychia

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Subungual melanoma (SUM) is a rare variant of malignant melanoma. It accounts for 3% of melanomas in the Caucasian population. In Asians, however, the proportion of SUM is higher and it accounts for up to approximately 10% and 18% of cutaneous melanoma cases in Japan and Korea, respectively. The mean age of onset of SUM is between 59 and 63 years old, and SUM is very rare in adolescents. The 18-year-old girl presented with a seven year history of black discoloration of the nail plate and dark brown pigmentation around the right thumb nail. Initially, a longitudinal pigmented band was noted on the nail plate, which then widened and darkened over time. Gradually, periungual black discoloration developed on the hyponychium and proximal nail folds. In addition, splitting and fissuring of the nail plate were noted. There was no family history of malignant

melanoma. Skin biopsy from the nail plate showed irregular proliferation of spindle or round atypical melanocytes with hyper chromatic nuclei at the dermal-epidermal junction and pagetoid spreading of atypical melanocytes in the epidermis. Immunohistochemical, atypical melanocytes were positive for HMB-45. Based on these findings, the patient was diagnosed with SUM *in situ* and transferred to other hospital. The remaining lesions were completely excised via wide local excision.

Speaker Biography

Hai-Jin Park is currently a Dermatology Professor in South Korea. He is the author of over 55 publications, in peer-reviewed journals. He is a reviewer of multiple journals with editorial positions in others. His expertise includes an interest in the dermatology and dermatological diseases and melanoma disease.

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